

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

TOPIC Soviet Troop Camps in the TEMPLIN Area

EVALUATION See below PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT See below

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 1 August 1949

REFERENCES

PAGES two ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) none 25X1

This document is hereby regraded to
 CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
 letter of 16 October 1973 from the
 Director of Central Intelligence to the
 Archivist of the United States.

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NO CHANGED in Class. DECLASSIFIED

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Date: 15 MAY 1978

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Soviet Troop Camps in the TEMPLIN Area

4 and 5 June 1949

1. Soviet tank and antitank artillery units were observed moving through ZEHDENICK (N 53/U 70) towards the northern section of the "Schorfheide" on 4 and 5 June 1949.
2. Three large cantonments with numerous bunkers and a total of about 300 cantonment buildings were observed at the "Schorfheide". One cantonment was located northwest of GROSSCHOENEBECK (N 53/Z 89), another one west of VOGELSANG (N 54/U 70) and the third east of HIMMELPFORT (N 54/U 72). Well camouflaged armored vehicles were parked near the cantonments.
3. A clearing of about 1 x 7.5 miles was being cut in the area of GRUNEWALD (N 54/U 80) - BEEBERSEE (N 54/U 90) - SOLIN (N 54/U 90) - VIELMANNSDORF (N 54/U 80). Maneuver ranges for tanks were allegedly established there.
4. It was said that all localities in the SCHLUFT (N 53/Z 89) GROSSDOELLN (N 53/U 80) - DARGERSDORF (N 54/U 91) - BURGWALL (N 54/U 70) area were to be evacuated by civilians in the following weeks.

7 June 1949

5. A large, newly established troop camp was observed 7 June 1949 on the road leading to TEMPLIN, about 12.5 miles south of PRENZLAU (N 54/Q 04). The camp had an estimated capacity of 8000 to 10,000 troops. It was surrounded by a high barbed-wire fence and connected with a water works. Several newly constructed watchtowers were seen. Only a small guard detail was located in the camp at the time of observation.

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15 June 1949

6. A large, newly established cantonment was observed 15 June 1949 in the immediate vicinity of the "Kannenburger Schleuse" (lock), i.e. about six miles north of ZEHDENICK (N 53/U 70). Source counted 165 well camouflaged tanks of types "T 34" and "JS", standing on planks and corduroy sections near the cantonment.

7. A firing range for tanks, 7 miles long and 1.8 miles wide, was allegedly to be established between the "Kannenburger Schleuse" and HIGHLIGHTFORT.

a. Lumbermen stated that the Soviets would start firing practices at this range on 23 June 1949.

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Comment:

a. The LYCHEN-GROSSCHOENEBECK-HASSLEBEN-TEPLIN area is considered from available information to be the training area (called TEPLIN training area in the following) for component units of the Fourth Red Army (Cadre).

(1) Great efforts have been made since March 1949 to improve the TEPLIN training area. Requisite work, such as the cutting of firing lanes and the construction of cantonment buildings, was not yet completed by mid-June 1949.

b. According to numerous reports (composed from information supplied by eleven sources), the following installations were observed in the training area:

(1) Camps: On the road leading to TEPLIN, 12.5 miles south of PRENZLAU
in the TEPLIN Forest (south of TEPLIN)
East of HIGHLIGHTFORT
West of HIGHLIGHTFORT
Northwest of GROSSCHOENEBECK (also referred to as camp at the "Kannenburger Schleuse")

(2) Training areas:
Woods south of, and parallel to the road from LYCHEN to TEPLIN
Area of VOGELSANG-GOLLIN
Area west of GRANSIE (?)
Area 12.5 miles south of PRENZLAU (?).

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